

**V. REMARKS**

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration because the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; c) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an Appeal be necessary. The Amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because it is made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. The amendments to the subject claims do not incorporate any new subject matter into the claims. Thus, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

The drawing figures are objected. The attached Replacement Sheet of Drawings obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 32, 2, 5, 8, 9, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. It is respectfully submitted that Applicant believes the Examiner inadvertently refers to claim 34 rather than claim 24. To overcome this rejection, Applicant amends independent claims 32 and 34 by adding "at least one" the ozone treatment tank. Also, Applicant amends claims 8 and 24 by reciting "the at least one ozone treatment tank includes a plurality of" ozone treatment tanks. As a result, the claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

As stated in the Office Action, claim 24 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicant believes that claim 24 is amended to overcome the rejection.

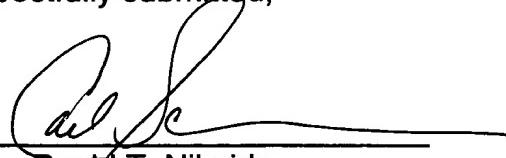
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of

the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): One (1) sheet of Replacement Drawings (Fig. 1)  
One (1) sheet of Annotated Drawings showing corrections (Fig. 1)

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Application No.: 09/868,632  
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Reply to Office Action of December 23, 2003  
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes



Fig. I

